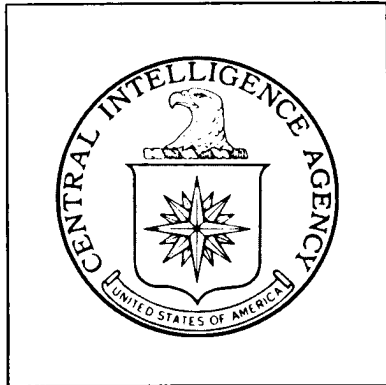


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**DIRECTORATE OF  
INTELLIGENCE**

**Industrial Facilities  
(Non-Military)**

*Basic Imagery Interpretation Report*

**Major Chemical Plants**

**North Korea**

**Top Secret**

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RCS 13/0038/71

DATE MAY 1971

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RCS - 13/0038/71

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Directorate of Intelligence  
Imagery Analysis Service

ABSTRACT

This report updates the previous basic reports on four major chemical plants in North Korea. The cut-off date for information is January 1971.

Minor changes have been observed at three of the plants. An unidentified processing unit has been added to the ammonia synthesis building at Hungnam Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant and the ore handling facilities have been expanded at Sunchon Chemical Plant. Minor additions have been seen at facilities in the gas by-products and possible polyvinyl chloride production areas at Hungnam Chemical Plant Pongung. No changes were observed at Aoji Ri Synthetic Petroleum Plant Chosen.

All four plants were observed operating on the latest photography.

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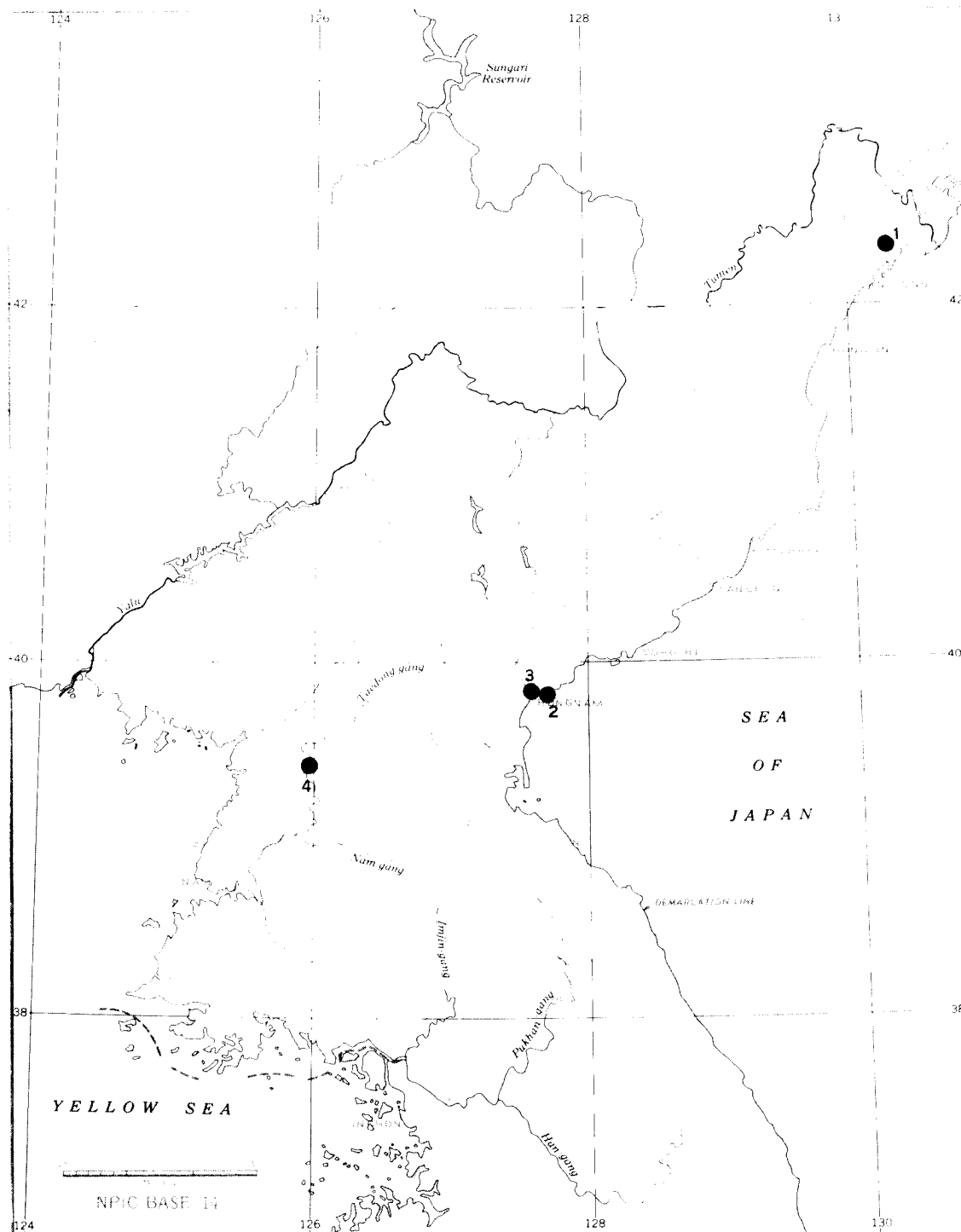


FIGURE 1. LOCATION MAP.

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### INTRODUCTION

This report presents information on the current status of two chemical plants, a synthetic petroleum plant and a nitrogen fertilizer plant in North Korea (see Figure 1).

1. Aoji Ri Synthetic Petroleum Plant Chosen.
2. Hungnam Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant.
3. Hungnam Chemical Plant Pongung.
4. Sunchon Chemical Plant.

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Requirement

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Support Number 429218

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME

COUNTRY

Aoji Ri Synthetic Petroleum Plant Chosen

KN

UTM COORDINATES

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

52TFC110090

42-31-12N 130-21-01E

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MAP REFERENCE

15th RTS. USATC, Series 200, Sheet M0290-10HL, 4th ed, Jul 67, Scale 1:200,000

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LATEST IMAGERY USED

NEGATION DATE (if required)

NA

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## BASIC DESCRIPTION

No apparent changes have been observed at Aoji Ri Synthetic Petroleum Plant Chosen since December 1968, the date of the latest photography used in the previous report.

The presence of coal in the coal receiving and storage area, the raised position of the gasholders, and vapors coming from the carbonization retorts/condenser house in the low-temperature carbonization plant indicated the plant was operating when seen on small-scale photography of March and November 1970.

## REFERENCES

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Document

CIA. RCS - 13/0236/69, Aoji Ri Synthetic Petroleum Plant Chosen, Kyonghung-up, North Korea, June 1969, (TOP SECRET RUFF)

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME

COUNTRY

Hungnam Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant

KN

UTM COORDINATES

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

52SCV818099

39-50-03N 127-37-12E

MAP REFERENCE

548th RTG. USATC, Series 200. Sheet M0380-4HL. 4th ed. Apr 68. Scale 1:200,000

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LATEST IMAGERY USED

NEGATION DATE (If required)

NA

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## BASIC DESCRIPTION

An unidentified processing unit has been constructed on the northeast side of the ammonia synthesis building at Hungnam Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant since November 1968, the date of the latest photography used in the previous report. Other changes observed at the plant include the construction of three support buildings and the dismantling of one unidentified building (see Figure 2).

Partial coverage of the plant in October 1969 and March 1970 showed that the sulfuric acid and superphosphate production areas were operating. The ammonium sulfate production area was also seen operating on the March 1970 photography. The presence of rail cars within the plant and vapors seen coming from the sulfuric acid, ammonium sulfate, nitric acid, and gas production areas indicated the plant was operating in November 1970.

## REFERENCES

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Document

CIA. RCS - 13/0235/69, Hungnam Nitrogen Fertilizer Plant, North Korea, June 1969,  (TOP SECRET RUFF)

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME		COUNTRY
Hungnam Chemical Plant Pongung		KN
UTM COORDINATES	GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES	25X1
52SCV790118	39-51-05N 127-35-08E	
MAP REFERENCE		
548th RTG. USATC, Series 200. Sheet M0380-4HL. 4th ed. Apr 68. Scale 1:200,000		
(SECRET)		
LATEST IMAGERY USED		NEGATION DATE (If required)
		NA

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## BASIC DESCRIPTION

No significant changes have been observed in the production facilities at Hungnam Chemical Plant Pongung since February 1969, the date of the latest photography used in the previous report. Some minor additions were observed at facilities in the gas by-products production area and possible polyvinyl chloride production area. In addition, minor construction and dismantling activity has been observed throughout the plant (see Figure 3).

The plant was in operation when observed on partial coverage of March 1970. Smoke coming from the stacks of the calcium carbide furnaces and fluctuations in the number of rail cars within the plant indicated it was also operating in November 1970 and January 1971.

## REFERENCES

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CIA. RCS - 13/0239/69, Hungnam Chemical Plant Pongung, North Korea, June 1969, (TOP SECRET RUFF)

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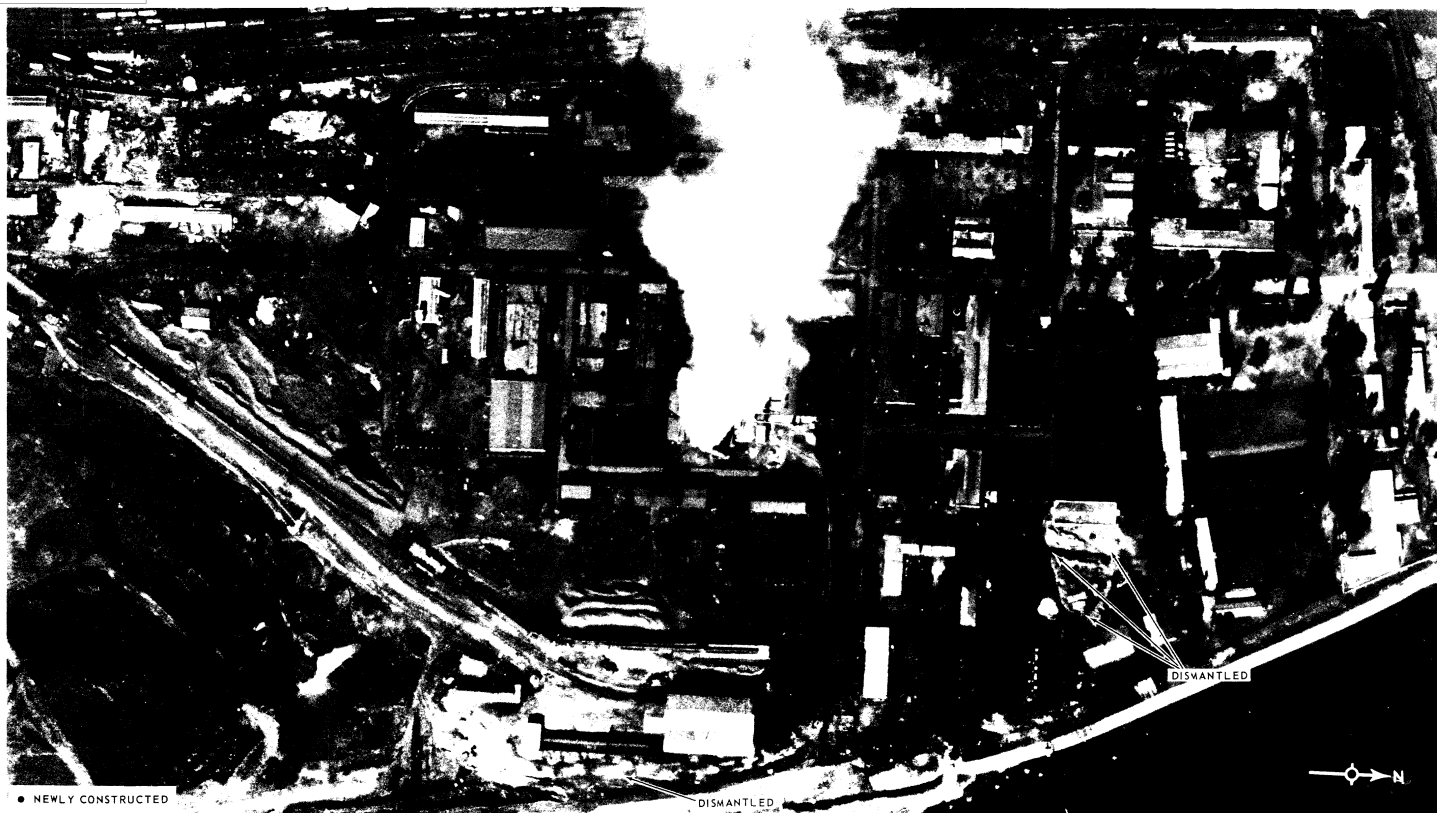


FIGURE 4. SUNCHON CHEMICAL PLANT, NORTH KOREA,

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INSTALLATION OR ACTIVITY NAME

COUNTRY

Sunchon Chemical Plant

KN

25X1

UTM COORDINATES

GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES

51SYD541666

39-25-10N 125-56-35E

MAP REFERENCE

15th RTS. USATC, Series 200, Sheet M0380-3HL, 5th ed, Feb 68, Scale 1:200,000

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LATEST IMAGERY USED

NEGATION DATE (If required)

NA

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## BASIC DESCRIPTION

Minor changes have been observed at Sunchon Chemical Plant since September 1968, the date of the latest photography used in the previous report. In November 1969, the ore handling facilities had been expanded, and four support buildings had been dismantled. In March 1970 additions were being made to several small support buildings. These additions were complete by September 1970 (see Figure 4). No changes were observed at the processing facilities.

Smoke seen coming from the stack of the rotary kiln building in November 1969, September 1970, and January 1971 indicated that the plant was operating on these dates. It could not be determined if the plant was operating in March 1970 due to the poor quality of the photography.

## REFERENCES

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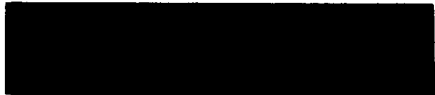
CIA. RCS - 13/0238/69, Sunchon Chemical Plant, North Korea, March 1969,  
(TOP SECRET RUFF)

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